

Program Summary Sheet

APACHE MODERNIZATION/RECAPITALIZATION

PEO/DSA: AVN

Incumbent: Derek J. Paquette

FY: 03

Rotation Date: Jul 03

Command Selection Criteria

1. Description of Program/Command:

AH-64A Apache Modernization provides near term modernization of the Apache fleet focusing on reliability upgrades and operationally validated navigational and communications enhancements. Integration of the 2nd Generation Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) into the Target Acquisition Designation Sight/Pilot Night Vision Sensor (TADS/PNVS) is the centerpiece of the program. 2nd Gen FLIR takes full advantage of emerging technology to substantially enhance target acquisition and flight safety while substantially reducing Operational and Support costs. Reliability upgrades consist of 30mm Area Weapons System and other Target Acquisition Designation Sight/Pilot Night Vision Sensor (TADS/PNVS) modifications. Communications enhancements provide increased range and reliability for Nap-of-the-Earth (NOE) communications through provision of an HF radio and VHF/FM antenna relocation. Additionally, the program incorporates an upgraded Fire Control Computer and Laser Warning System into the Apache Helicopter.

2. Description of PMs/Commanders Responsibilities:

PM, Apache Modernization is responsible for the acquisition and integration of navigation, communication, and reliability software and hardware upgrades associated with the AH-64 Apache fleet, most notable is the 2nd Gen FLIR upgrade. The PM leads a team of more than 50 government and support contractor personnel as well as Apache PMO, PEO Aviation, AMCOM, CECOM and AMCCOM matrix personnel. The PM prepares programmatic budgetary documentation, fact sheets and briefings for PEO, DA, OSD and Congressional levels. The PM ensures appropriate logistics planning is integrated into the Army logistics support system and adequate logistical support is available to the user concurrent with development of the system. The PM identifies modifications to training devices and assists with the development of classroom instructional material. The PM maintains a sound relationship with the operational Apache community and the TRADOC System Manager to ensure user requirements receive maximum consideration.

3. Desirable Characteristics:

a. Military Education:

MEL4 and DSMC Program Management Course

b. Civilian Education:

BS required. MS in aeronautical, electrical or mechanical engineering or business desired.

c. Experience:

Previous assignment in PM office desired; related experience in research and development, acquisition, aeronautical engineering and/or SARDA staff desired.

d. Security Clearance:

e. Other:

Acquisition Corps; Aviation 15/Research Development 51; senior Army aviator, AH-64 qualified (operational flying position).

4. Administrative Data:

a. Duty Station

City: Redstone Arsenal State: AL

b. UIC: W27P02

c. Report Date: Month: Jun Year: 03

Other Significant Command Information

1a. Significant Congressional, Office of the Secretary of Defense, and/or Army Interest:

Overall AH-64 Modernization and particularly AH-64 reliability are subjects of increasingly intense congressional concern and interest. Congress closely monitors the status and progress of ongoing and programmed upgrades included in the AH-64 modernization program. The PM averages to trips per year to Capitol Hill to brief Congressional staff members.

b. Significant Impact on Military Posture and Readiness:

The AH-64A Apache is the U.S. Army's premier attack helicopter. With more than 20 Battalions in the field, the AH-64A is a critical part of the Theater, Corps and Division Commander's combat power and provides the Army's most lethal and responsive anti-armor, personnel and material destruction capability. In addition to standard Army unit locations, AH-64A units are currently deployed in Bosnia, Kosovo and Kuwait.

c. Extensive Interdepartmental, National, or International Coordination:

Foreign Military Sales (FMS) of the AH-64 is of vital interest to the Army and the Apache Longbow program. With A model Apaches fielded to numerous allies, coordination of technical assistance is required. The potential exists for FMS customers to purchase some or all of the modernization program enhancements as well as modifications which are not in the program. The AH-64 Apache Modernization Product Manager must be prepared to assist the FMS customer in any manner necessary to facilitate the FMS case.

d. Unusual Organizational Complexity, Technological Advancement or Interface Control:

The Apache Modernization team is primarily comprised of matrix and contractor support personnel. Matrix support emanates from the Apache PMO as well as AMCOM, CECOM and AMCCOM. Contractor support is derived from a variety of sources. Management of resources from such disparate sources often presents significant challenges.

e. Unusual Difficulties Requiring Centralized Management:

The AH-64A is an extremely complex aircraft which integrates a turbine engine driven platform with a Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) pilotage and targeting system and three unique weapons systems – Hellfire anti-tank missiles; 2.75in Folding Fin Aerial Rockets and 30mm chain gun. With significant upgrades to the FLIR sensors and substantial efforts to address known reliability and safety issues, there is a critical need for centralized management to provide oversight and management to government, industry and developmental activities to ensure a coordinated effort and maximum benefit of limited funding. The need for centralized management will increase as the AH-64A is fielded to numerous National Guard divisions under the Aviation Modernization Plan.

2. Systems currently managed by the PM:

AH-64A Apache Apache Modernized Target Acquisition Designation Sight/Pilot Night Vision Sensor (TADS/ PNVIS) Second Generation FLIR